FORM NO. 51.61A

CLASSIFICATION

RESTRICTED

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

25X1A

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

Iraq

Baghdad Press Reviews

DATE DISTR.

21 Feb. 1951

1

NO. OF PAGES

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1A

SUBJECT

PLACE ACQUIRED

DATE ACQUIRED

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE

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RESTRICTED CLASSIFICATION

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# DAILY REVIEW

of the

# BAGHDAD PRESS

Embassy of the U.S.A. Baghdad, Iraq.

Tuesday, January 30, 1951.

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FORTIETH DAY OF QUEEN ALIYA'S DEATH.

On the occasion of the fortieth day of Queen Aliya's death, Al-Umma, Al-Nabaa, Al-Ittihad Ad-Dasturi and Al-Akhbar carry blackened front pages with pictures of the Queen's funeral and editorials for the occasion. But, all the morning papers print a short biography of the Queen. Éd.)

Born on January 19, 1911 at Mecca, she is the daughter of King Ali, eldest son of King Hussain, and of Queen Nafisa, cousin of King Hussain. (Nafisa is the daughter of the fifth paternal uncle of King Hussain.)

She spent her childhood in Hejaz. In 1926, she came to Baghdad with her parents. On September 18, 1933, she was married to King Ghazi. On May 2, 1935, she gave birth to her only son, King Feisal II. She died on December 21, 1950. (Al-Ittihad Ad-Dasturi)

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## THE ARAB LEAGE SESSION.

The Arab League Council held on January 29 its first meeting of the 13th session. It approved 14 items including the following:

1) A Saudi note on the Point IV Program.

- 2) A memorandum on participation in the Regional Labor Conference.
- 3) A memorandum to open an Arab office in Istanbul.

4) The report of the AL delegation to the UN.

5) The Draft budget for 1951.

- 6) The Secretariat's memorandum for a credit for Libya and North Africa.
- 7) A report about matters submitted to the Legal Committee.

8) A report on setting up an Arab court of justice.

9) The report of the Social Committee.
10) The resolution of the Arab culture conference. 11) The renewal of Towfiq As-Suwaidi's chairmanship of the

Economic Committee. The....

- 2 - January 30, 1951.

The Political Committee is to hold its 8th meeting on January 30. (Liwa Al-Istiqlal)

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JANUARY 29 MEETING OF THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES.

Yesterday, the Chamber of Deputies passed the law for the oil refinery and the Ordinance No. 4 of 1950. This ordinance which deals with the adjustment of the budget allocations caused a long debate between Finance Minister Abdul Wahab Merjan, Khalil Ismail, Abdul Karim Al-Uzri on one hand and Abdul Razzak Al-Uzri on the other. The latter criticized the Ministers of Finance for overspending budget appropriations. The three others gave the repartee that this is being forced upon Ministers of Finance by practical factors.

\*

The oil refinery law was welcomed and quickly approved by the deputies. Siddiq Shanshal said, "This is one of the few draft laws upon which we agree with the present government." However, Article 2 of the law, as approved by the committee, was changed upon the request of the Minister of Finance to read: "Article 2.- The above-mentioned sum shall be made available from the revenues to be earmarked by the government or by loans on terms approved by the Council of Ministers.

\*

The Chamber adjourned until Monday, February 5. Its agenda includes the Ordinance No. 3 of 1950 amending the law for the farm machinery and implements service, the Ordinance No. 5 of 1950 for the export tax on dates, and the law for chemical practice and drugs sale. (Az-Zaman)

\* \* \*

#### EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

Speaking of the "Qudsi plan", <u>Sada Al-Ahali</u> says that its importance derives from the fact that it is the "first official document of its type to be submitted by an Arab head of government, noting the menaces to the Arabs and the remedies to the biggest Arab organization."

The paper points out that Qudsi's views are not an innovation; but what is new is that he, as prime minister, is backing the popular trend of opinion. The paper goes on saying, "The National Democratic Party which pledged itself since its foundation to advocate Arab federation and which is bound in its

program....

- 3 - January 30, 1951.

program to strive for it, has made it clear that the prevailing corrupt conditions of the Arab states cannot be coped with unless internal reforms are introduced in everyone of the Arab states, opportunism of the ruling class is being uprooted and foreign influence which is the root of the evil is resisted..."

The Qudsi plan should be examined by all classes of the people. Inadequate preparations might lead to the following alternative: 1) the plan is dropped, or 2) the plan leads to the opposite consequences: Iraq, Syria and Jordan constitute one bloc, against a Saudi-Egyptian or Saudi-Yemenite bloc. This would mean the end of the League. But, in fact it is better to keep it as it is than to have it collapse.

It should be borne in mind also that Israel has split the Arab world into two sections. Arab federation should mean a favorable settlement of the Palestine question.

The paper, in the end, warns that the implementation of such a plan should in no way means that the Arabs will throw themselves into the "lap" of Imperialism.

\*

Commenting on Nuri As-Said's note to the Arab League Political Committee, proposing a firmer stand behind the UN and the non-use of force but in the "collective international interest", Liwa Al-Istiqlal says that any such plan is viewed by the Arabs as "a myth or deceptive mirage or a glove hiding the British iron hands to draw the Arab states into war under the disguise of sparing them it....."

The paper believes that priority should be given to the liberation of the Arab states and their unity before defining the attitude to be adopted by them in international affairs.

\* \* \*

SHORT NEWS.

A Royal Irada has been issued transferring Ahmed & Rawi, Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs, from the Ministry to Amman as Minister.

According to Liwa Al-Istiqlal, the cadre of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is to be revised. The undersecretaryship will be abolished and Yusef Al-Gailani will be made DG of Foreign Affairs.

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- 4 - January 30, 1951.

PRIMIT

A Royal Irada has been issued appointing Rufail Butti DG at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Another has appointed Amin Al-Awqati as Financial Inspector. (Liwa Al-Istiqlal)

\*

Upholding the Qudsi plan, Sadiq Al-Bassam told the ANA correspondent in Baghdad, "The Qudsi plan has conveyed the aspirations of the free Arabs for unity and federation." (Az-Zaman)

\*

The Mexican Minister-designate has arrived in Baghdad to present his credentials. (Az-Zaman)

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Mohammed Ridha Ash-Shibibi is expected in Baghdad on Wednesday. He is coming from Cairo. (Az-Zaman)

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The Government has notified the Italian Minister in Baghdad that Italian goods have been unfreezed, and the controller of foreign properties has been instructed accordingly. (Az-Zaman)

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BAGHDAD PRESS

Embassy of the U.S.A. Baghdad, Iraq.

Sunday, January 28, 1951 Monday, January 29, 1951

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THE ARAB LEAGUE SESSION.

The Political Committee held its 6th meeting on Saturday, January 27. It examined the Libyan question and the international situation. Regarding Libya, a decision was adopted. The official release after the meeting says that the Political Committee "decided to authorize the Egyptian Government to follow the Libyan question so as to have the UN resolution regarding the unity and independence of Libya implemented in time."

As for the international relations, no decision has been reached.

Azzam Pasha has declared that the Political Committee will complete its works on Tuesday, January 30. (Liwa Al-Istiqlal. 1/28)

\*

On Sunday January 28, the Political Committee had its 7th meeting. It heard the delegation of the Libyan Constituent Assembly. It decided to hear the representatives of the Party of the Libyan "Kutla", which has views contrary to the said delegation's. No time was left for resuming the consultations on the international situation.

The AL Council is convening on Monday, January 29 for the first time. Its next meeting will be on Thursday, February 1. (Liwa Al-Istiqlal. 1/29)

\* \* \*

PREMIER NURI AS-SAID'S RETURN.

According to Al-Ittihad Ad-Dasturi (1/28), Premier Nuri As-Said will "most probably" return in Baghdad on Tuesday, January 30.

THE QUDSI PROPOSAL.

Ex-Premier Muzahim Al-Pachachi has told the <u>Az-Zaman</u> reporter that he read the <u>Qudsi proposal</u> of Arab federation or confederation with "admiration and gratitude." He believes that the Arab

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- 2 - January 28 & 29, 1951.

states have "no chance of security against the internal and external menaces, unless they unite completely." (Az-Zaman. 1/28)

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Later, he cabled to Premier Qudsi, saying, "I read with deep admiration and satisfaction your latest memorandum about a plan of Arab unity. I congratulate you. I wish you success in achieving its goals. It is the only adequate measure to save the Arab nation from certain dangers." (Az-Zaman. 1/28)

Premier Qudsi replied, "I thank you for your noble feeling. I beseech God to guide us into the right path in serving our nation." (Az-Zaman. 1/29)

\*

Independence Party Leader Mohammed Mahdi Kubba told "Al-Ahram" correspondent in Baghdad, "Qudsi's memorandum successfully emphasizes the Arabs' viewpoint for dealing with their national problems. It expresses sincerely their aspirations for unity or federation as an indispensable instrument to ward off the dangers threatening them and to give them a valuable prestige in international affairs.

"The Independence Party, which has faith in the principle of unity and which strives for it by all available means, welcomes this memorandum and the high principles and the right and mature views it embodies, and congratulates Premier Qudsi for this blessed step undertaken for the first time by an Arab Prime Minister.

"We hope sincerely that his appeal finds ready ears and hearts on the part of the other Arab government, amidst the international upheavals and following the weakness caused by dissension." (liwa Al-Istiglal. 1/29)

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Al-Yaqdha (1/29) suggests a campagin to collect signatures throughout the Arab world in support of the Qudsi proposal.

\*

Senate President Jamil Al-Madfai stated, "Personally, I wish the idea to be implemented after careful examination. The Qudsi proposal is everyone's principle, especially those who have joined the Arab cause long ago." (Az-Zaman. 1/29)

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THE....

- 3 - January 28 and 29, 1951.

THE JEWISH EXODUS.

On Sunday, January 28, three planes transporting Jewish emigrants left for Cyprus. The day before, four planes had left. This represents a speeded up schedule, as four planes will be leaving every day. Indeed, it needs to be stepped up because 60,000 denationalized Jews are awaiting transportation and the denationalization period is nearing its end. (Ash-Shaab. 1/29)

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The Ministry of Interior has instructed all Mutasarrifs to submit all lists of Jews who have applied for denationlization before February 14 in order to forward them to the Council of Ministers as the appropriate law will become ineffective on March 8, 1951.

According to informed circles, no application will be accepted after February 14. The government has no intention of extending the period of denationalization as rumored, and is doing its best to have all denationalized Jews out of the country before next May. (Al-Hawadith. 1/29)

\* \* \*

EDITORIAL COMMENTS: ARAB AFFAIRS.

In an editorial entitled "Premier Nuri As-Said lays down the main lines of the nationalist policy wanted by the Arabs", Al-Ittihad Ad-Dasturi (1/28) says that his memorandum to the Political Committee for refraining from siding with either world camps was the basis of the discussions. The paper emphasizes his role at the current League session despite the malicious rumors being spread by his political opponents. It underscores his lifelong efforts for the Arab cause.

\*

Faiq As-Samerrai, in <u>Liwa Al-Istiglal</u> (1/29) says that Qudsi's memorandum to the Arab League has been received with "deep satisfaction," because he "points to the disease". Our independence is "encroached upon" because we have not enough prestige. "Unity or federation," he asserts, "represents the first step and the cornerstone of any reform. By it, we can impose our own will on the others."

The writer expresses the fear that the proposal will remain "academic" without implementation, because the mentality of the ruling class is not expected to change and to divorce with selfishness. That is why, he calls on the Arab public to force their governments to change their attitude.

Premier....

- 4 - January 28 and 29, 1951.

Fremier Qudsi, says Ash-Shaab (1/28), did not like to see the Arab League holding a session without making a "surprising" announcement. He proposed an Arab federation. Indeed, the Arabs have been so oversaturated with paper projects to attach any importance to the new one. Instead, the League should draft plans to remedy discontentment among the Arabs and to help the refugees who are living on international charity.

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SHORT NEWS.

The trade delegation, to be headed by Ali Mumtaz, will be leaving for India on February 6. (Ash-Shaab. 1/29)

\*

The Ministry of Interior has granted the permission for establishing the Journalists' Association. (Liwa Al-Istiqlal. 1/29)

\*

According to the Baghdad Radio correspondent in Cairo, Iraq will sign the Arab Common Defense Treaty after the drafting of a new military protocol. This protocol will provide for a committee of Arab chiefs of staff to oversee the military committee. (Liwa Al-Istiqlal. 1/29)

\*

The Ministry of Economics has been notified by the Foreign Office of West Germany's desire for concluding a trade agreement with Iraq. The only handicap was the existence of the state of war between the two countries; but this has been eliminated due to the fact that the Council of Ministers decided last Saturday to end the state of war with Germany. (Liwa Al-Istiqlal. 1/29)

\*

With the purpose of having the King resume his studies at Harrow, he and the Regent will be leaving for Britain before mid-February. The Regent will remain in London for some weeks before returning. (Az-Zaman. 1/29)

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Indonesia has appointed a new Minister to Baghdad to succeed Haj Abdulla Dahlan, who died last May. He is due here next March. (Az-Zaman. 1/29)

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Early.....

- 5 - January 28 and 29, 1951.

Early in February, Sabih Mumtaz Ad-Daftari, member of the Iraqi oil delegation to London, is expected to return. (Az-Zaman. 1/29)

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The Civil Aviation Committee is considering the draft air agreement proposed by the U.S., and has decided to ask for the clarification of certain points. (Az-Zaman. 1/29)

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The Ministry of Works and Communications has advised the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that it is granting a permission for regular flights between Baghdad and Amman to the Jordan air lines company established by Jordanian Senator Ismail Pasha Al-Bilbisi. (Az-Zaman. 1/29)

\*

A long list of promotions of army officers is released. Amir Al-Liwa Ismail Safwar is made Fariq. Abdul Wahab Shaker is promoted from Muqaddam to Aqid. Abbas Ali Ghalib, from Aqid to Zayim. (Az-Zaman. 1/28)

\*

Islamic societies have been invited to the Moslem conference slated for February 9 at Karachi. The Iraqi delegation will include Haj Amjad Az-Zahawi, Mohammed Mahmud As-Sawwaf, Abdul Rahman Khedher and Taha Al-Fayadha, of the Islamic Brotherhood Society. (As-Sijil. 1/28)

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# B A G H D A D P R E S S

Embassy of the U.S.A. Baghdad, Iraq.

Friday, January 26, 1951 Saturday, January 27, 1951

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THE ARAB LEAGUE SESSION

The AL Political Committee held its fifth meeting on Friday, January 26, to resume the discussions of the international situation. (Az-Zaman. 1/27)

\*

According to the ANA correspondent, Syria, Iraq and Jordan believe that "neutrality" will be harmful to the Arabs because both camps will withhold any assistance to them. (Az-Zaman. 1/27)

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According to the Baghdad Radio correspondent, Syrian Premier Nadhem Al-Qudsi has proposed to the Arab League a plan for the federation of the Arab states in a way or other.

\*

Premier Qudsi called the Arab League a "disappointment" and stressed that the current session is decisive in the sense that the League will collapse or will give birth to the longed for Arab federation. He proposed a committee to tour the Arab states for an opinion round-up after the prior approval of the AL Folitical Committee. (Az-Zaman. 1/27)

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JANUARY 25 MEETING OF THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES.

On January 25, the Chamber of Deputies passed the Law of a Provident Fund for Municipalities and the Ordinance No. 2 of 1950. The Chamber, then, switched to the Ordinance No. 4 of 1950, and it engaged into a long argument over the inadvisability of the executive branch's abuse of its constitutional power of issuing ordinances. When the argument was over, the Chamber adjourned for lack of quorum until January 29, 1951.

The Chamber's agenda for January 29 includes a/number of queries and draft laws such as the one of the oil refinery.

(Az-Zaman. 1/26)

\* \* \* \* COMMEMORATION.....

Approved For Release 2002/08/14: CIA-RDP83-00415R007500040001-3

- 2 - January 26 and 27, 1951.

COMMEMORATION OF JANUARY 1948 "UPRISING".

During the last days of January 1948, the Jabr government resigned following a series of demonstrations and riots after the release of the text of the new Anglo-Iraqi treaty signed at Portsmouth. This year, the day is commemorated by a meeting at the Independence Party and a special issue of Liwa Al-Istiqlal (1/27), by an editorial of Kamel Chaderchi in Sada Al-Ahali (1/26) and a special issue of Al-Alam Al-Arabi still to appear on Sunday, January 28. (Ed.)

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The special issue of <u>Liwa Al-Istiglal</u> (1/27) carries the speeches of Leader Mohammed Mahdi Kobba, of Secretary Mohammed Siddig Shanshal, of Deputy for Mosul Qassim Al-Mufti, and of Salman As-Safwani; all were delivered yesterday afternoon at the Independence Party. Besides, it carries an article of Faiq As-Samerrai.

\*

Mohammed Mahdi Kubba declared that Nuri As-Said's appeal for joining the Western camp means the same dangers which were inherent in the Portsmouth Treaty and which frightened the Iraqis, with the difference that Nuri As-Said wants Iraq to be plunged into an already existing conflict and against a camp so near our borders.

The same opposition which was displayed by the people and a large section of statesmen to the Portsmouth treaty should be against Nuri As-Said's plans. (Liwa Al-Istiqlal. 1/27)

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Kamel Chaderchi writes a 9-column editorial on the "lesson from the Uprising." After a long review of Iraq's political history, Chaderchi says that Nuri As-Said is "replaying Saleh Jabr's role to tie Iraq with new imperialistic ties still more serious than those of the Portsmouth treaty." Thus, after three years, the country is confronted with the same danger, but still on a broader scale, because all the Arab states, and not Iraq alone, are to be subjugated.

The lesson from the Uprising is that unified leadership is of paramount importance. The ruling class was allowed to stage a comeback because of the lack of leadership in the Uprising.

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NEUTRALITY....

- 3 - January 26 and 27, 1951.

NEUTRALITY OR ALLIANCE.

Ali Mahmud Sheikh Ali, writing in  $\underline{\text{Az-Zaman}}$  (1/27), says that despite what the West has done to the Arabs, they should "bind their fate to it" provided that it satisfies their demands. But, the big problem is that the West pleases the Arabs.

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SHORT NEWS.

Mohammed Al-Brefkani, former editor of "Aj-Jabel" which was closed down by the Martial Administration in 1949, has been granted the permission to publish "Al-Ayam" (The days). (Al-Hatif. 1/27)

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In the case filed by the Public Prosecution against Adnan Ar-Rawi and Mohammed Amin Abdul Hakim, the former for writing a punishable editorial in Al-Istiglal and the latter in his capacity of responsible Mudir, the Baghdad Criminal Court had indicted them on the ground of Article 6 of Chapter XII of the Baghdad Penal Code.

The Court will hear the defense on January 30. (Al-Hatif. 1/27)

\*

The Minister of Economics stated that he is considering the question of appointing commercial attaches to Iraqi missions abroad. (Az-Zaman. 1/27)

\*

Queen Aliya's week to mark the fortieth day of her death was inaugurated yesterday by an eulogistic ceremony of the Women's Federation at the Feisal Hall. This will be followed by the one of the colleges on Sunday, and by a bigger one next Friday; both will be attended by the Regent. (Az-Zaman. 1/27)

\*

Informed circles expect that diplomatic representation between Iraq and Egypt be raised to ambassadorial rank. (Al-Akhbar. 1/27)

Abdul Baqi...

4 - January 26 and 27, 1951.

Abdul Baqi Abdulla, DG of the Post and Telegraph, has announced that the tests of direct wireless communications with the U.S. has proved so successful that the service will enter into operation as from February 10, 1951. Besides the speed it offers, this will permit to reduce the fees on wireless to the U.S. (Ash-Shaab. 1/26)

\*

Up to now, 25,426 denationalized Jews have left Iraq. (Ash-Shaab. 1/26)

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# BAGHDAD PRESS

Embassy of the U.S.A. Baghdad, Iraq.

Wednesday, January 31, 1951.

25X1A

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KING LEAVING FOR LONDON ON FEBRUARY 6.

On February 6, the King, attended by the Regent and the royal princesses, will leave Baghdad for Beirut by land to proceed to London by sea.

Emir Zaid is due in Baghdad on February 3 to take over the Regency; however, it has not yet been determined how long the Regent will stay in Britain. (Az-Zaman)

\* \* \*

SOVIET-IRAQI TRADE.

Economics Minister Abdul Majid Mahmud has submitted to the Council of Ministers a memorandum for establishing trade relations between Iraq and Russia.

According to Az-Zaman, the government has "no objection" to it, as Iraq might export dates and import newsprint and textiles.

The plan has been passed to a committee, with representatives of the Ministries of Finance, Economics and Foreign Affairs, to examine its usefulness. (Az-Zaman)

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THE ARAB LEAGUE SESSION.

At its 8th meeting, the Arab League Folitical Committee examined the Libyan question and the international situation. According to Dr. Salahiddin, the Committee will resume its discussions about both items on Wednesday, January 31.

According to Azzam Pasha, the Committee has approved the Arab Common Defense Treaty; it has only to be put in its final form. Moreover, Nuri As-Said has asked his government for the authority to sign it.

According....

- 2 - January 31, 1951.

According to Baghdad Radio correspondent in Cairo, the Qudsi plan will be submitted to a special committee for examination and for a report to the next session.

According to the same correspondent, the Political Committee's decision regarding the international situation will be "flexible". (Liwa Al-Istiqlal)

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#### EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

In a factual analysis of Nuri As-Said's note to the League for upholding the UN in the present international conflict, Ash-Shaab interprets its meaning. The world is divided into two camps; each one pretends to stick to the UN principles. The other nations have to choose between neutrality or siding with either of them. There is "nothing called 'to stick to the UN principles' in fact," asserts the paper. That is why, it brands such an attitude on the part of the Arab states as a "nonsense" and "vagrantness."

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Commenting on Nuri As-Said's note to the League, Al-Ittihad Ad-Dasturi points out that it is to be taken as a basis for the Folitical Committee's discussions. It stresses that it will not be easy for the Arab states to define their attitude to the international situation; but, it says that this should be based on: 1) the interest of the Arab states and 2) their desire for advancing world peace.

The paper believes that it will be very "advantageous" for the Arab states to adopt Nuri As-Said's "excellent proposals which are very carefully laid down." In fact, the Arab League has to deal with the international situation, the Palestine question, and the refugees problem. If it succeeds, it would have "opened a new page of the struggle for the Arab cause."

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Congratulating the government for the enactment of the oil refinery law, <u>Al-Akhbar</u> underscores that no Iraqi is "unaware of its importance." The new project will be the "nucleus" of Iraqi industrialism, it will afford jobs for workers and others, and it will save the national wealth being spent to buy oil products.

42

- 3 - January 31, 1951:

Commenting on the reports that France wants the Moroccan Sultan to abdicate, Faiq As-Samerrai, in <u>Liwa Al-Istiqlal</u>, discounts the official denials of the French authorities as a "cover for them to carry out their imperialistic conspiracy."

Faiq As-Samerrai deems it is "painful" that these "imperialistic conspiracies" coincide with the Arabs' "haste to throw themselves into the lap of the Western camp." He deems it a "tragicomedy" that the Arabs interfere with plans for international peace while they are unable to handle their immediate problems. "Time has come," says Faiq, "for the Arabs to concentrate their attention on their own affairs. It is better for them to devote their efforts to their problems and leave the question of ensuring peace and international security to others."

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France, says <u>As-Sijil</u>, which is being humiliated everywhere, means to "revenge her honor" at the detriment of Morocco, because the Moroccan Sultan has refused to obey France's orders for humiliating the Arabs in this part of their world.

The paper expresses "no wonder" at the French behavior; but, it would like to see the Arab League react to this "aggression." It blames the Arab representatives at Lake Success for their inaction, and deduces that "they do not possess enough freedom to express their nation's rights and they are subservient to the imperialistic nations."

In the end, the paper calls on the people and the government of Iraq "not to keep quiet about this barbarous act of France so that France would know that the Arab nation is one body, if one member suffers the others are ready to help."

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SHORT NEWS.

Royal Iradas have been issued appointing Ahmed Zaki Al-Mudarres, Qaimmaqam of Hai, as Mutasarrif of Hilla and Abdul Razzak Shkara, DG of Municipalities, as Administrative Inspector. (Liwa Al-Istiglal)

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At a recent meeting of the Council of Ministers, the Minister of Economics has been authorized to make overtures for trade agreements with thirteen nations, from which Iraq imports more than it exports, with the intention of increasing Iraq's exports to these countries. They are: Britain, Italy, Ceylon, India, Iran, Brazil, Czechoslevakia, Sweden, Holland, Belgium, France, Germany and Australia (AZZZAMAN).

- 4 - January 31, 1951.

Mr. White, representative of the British Treasury in the Middle East, has arrived in Baghdad to resume financial negotiations with the government. He is due to see the Minister of Finance this morning. (Az-Zaman)

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The government has refused to grant permissions for exporting eggs with the view of preventing any shortage of foodstuffs. (Az-Zaman)

\*

Adnan Ar-Rawi and the responsible Mudir of Al-Istiqlal newspaper have been sentenced to six months' imprisonment with respite against a five-year bond of good behavior. The Public Prosecution is sueing them for an article, written by Adnan Ar-Rawi, and published in the Istiqlal. (Al-Alam Al-Arabi)

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The Council of Ministers has approved the draft law for a skin association and decided to submit it to parliament for enactment. (Al-Umma)

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